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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Gaku Watanabe et al.

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November 12, 2003 Date of Signature

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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The contents of this statement follow the outline of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a). By this Information Disclosure Statement, applicants wish to bring the following documents to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Foreign Patents

AL. Patent Abstracts of Japan JP 07177496, published 07/14/95

AM. Patent Abstracts of Japan JP 07184093, published 07/21/95

AN. Patent Abstracts of Japan JP 07072958, published 03/17/95

AO. Patent Abstracts of Japan JP 07175556, published 07/14/95

AP. International Patent Application WO 94/14274, published 06/23/94

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AQ. European Patent Application EP 0565319, published 10/13/93

All of the above references were cited in a European Search Report of the counterpart European Patent Application. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed.

Copies of these references are enclosed herewith. Also, enclosed in duplicate, is an accompanying form equivalent to PTO-1449, listing the art cited by applicants. The Examiner is respectfully requested to mark on one copy of the enclosed form that the Examiner has reviewed the listed documents and return the marked copy to applicants' undersigned attorneys at the below listed address.

Enclosed is USPTO Form PTO-2038 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee for this Information Disclosure Statement. Please charge any other fees for entry of this Statement to our Deposit Account 18-1644.

November 12, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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